

Appl. No. 10/527,368
Amdt. Dated October 17, 2008
Reply to Office action of June 20, 2008
Attorney Docket No. P17580-US1
EUS/J/P/08-3369

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 2.

A Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheet(s) is being filed concurrently herewith under a separate cover. For your convenience, a copy of that filing is attached.

Attachment: Copy of Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1-13 and 15-25. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-13 and 15-25 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Drawings were objected to because Figure 1 and 2, should be designated by a legend such as –Prior Art–. A correction to the drawing is shown on the enclosed sheet. The Examiner's approval of the drawing change is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to because the character of the lines, numbers and letters were not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black. In response, the Applicant is submitting "formal" replacement sheets. The Examiner's approval of these drawings is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections – Specification

The specification was objected to because of several informalities. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review of the specification. In response, the Applicant has modified the specification as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's consideration of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-19, 21-25 were objected to because of informalities. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough review of the claims. The Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner in order to correct the informalities. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 1, 3-4, 13, 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Nikander (GB 2367986A). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims and the Applicant has amended claims 1 and 13 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. Support for the amendments can be found on page 9, lines 8-27.

The present invention discloses an authentication scheme for handling individual members of a multicast group, upon leaving and joining the group, so that the members can access the multicast content when they join and be prevented from accessing the content when they leave the group. The scheme uses the member's public-private key and IPv6 address, transmitted to a group controller by the member, to confirm that the public key is associated with the member's IPv6 address and the member is at the address.

The object of the Nikander reference is to provide a means for proving ownership of an IP address. Nikander discloses application of a coding function to components received from a host and comparing the results against the interface identifier part of the IP address. If the results match the interface identifier, the host is then assumed to be authorized to use the IP address and if no match, the host is not authorized.

Nikander and the present invention are similar, as noted in the specification on page 9, line 5. However, there is a difference. Nikander fails to disclose the use of the digital signature to further verify that the candidate member (actually, terminal) owns the public-private key pair to which the public key belongs and that the candidate member terminal owns the source IP address. That being the case, the Applicant respectfully submits the Nikander does not anticipate claims 1 and 13 and the respective dependent claims. The Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 16-17 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 2, 5-6, 15, 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikander as applied to claims 1 and 13 above, and in view of Caronni

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et al (US Patent 6,049,878 and Caronni hereinafter). The Applicant has amended claims 1-13 and 15-25 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. Support for the amendments can be found on page 9, lines 8-27. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 2, 5-6, 15, 18-19.

As noted above, the Nikander reference is similar to the present invention. However, as also noted, Nikander fails to disclose the use of the digital signature to further verify that the candidate member (actually terminal) owns the public-private key pair to which the public key belongs and that the candidate member terminal owns the source IP address. The Caronni reference fails to provide this missing limitation and since claims 2, 5-6, 15 and 18-19 depend respectively from claims 1 and 13, the Applicant respectfully submits that these claims too are allowable over Nikander and Caronni.

Claims 7-9, 20-22 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley et al (US Patent 6,275,859 B1 and Wesley hereinafter) and in view of Caronni. The Applicant has amended independent claims 7 and 20 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. Support for the amendments can be found on page 11, lines 8-14. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claims 7 and 20, as amended, include limitations not found or taught in either Wesley or Caronni, specifically the digital signature that is generated by applying an algorithm and the user's (terminal's) private key to the contents of the certificate. And, then a proof-of-possession procedure, based on the private key is used to verify ownership of the certificate. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7 and 20, as amended, are patentable over the Wesley and Caronni references, as are the respective dependent claims 8-9, 21-22 and 25. The allowance of claims 7-9, 20-22 and 25 are respectfully requested.

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Claims 10 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley in view of Caronni as applied to claims 7 and 20 above, and further in view of Nikander. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claims 10 and 23, depend from amended claims 7 and 20 and thus include limitations not found or taught in either Wesley or Caronni that is, the digital signature that is generated by applying an algorithm and the user's (terminal's) private key to the contents of the certificate. And, a proof-of-possession procedure, based on the private key is used to verify ownership of the certificate. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10 and 23 are patentable over the Wesley and Caronni references, and the allowance of claims 10 and 23 are respectfully requested.

Claims 11-12 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley in view of Caronni as applied to claims 7 and 20 above, and further in view of Pellacuru (US Patent 7,334,125 B1). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claims 11-12 and 24 depend from claims 7 and 20 respectively and thus include limitations not found or taught in either Wesley or Caronni. The Pellacuru does not supply the missing limitations. The limitations not taught or suggested by the Wesley, Caronni and Pellacuru references either individually or in combination are the digital signature that is generated by applying an algorithm and the user's (terminal's) private key to the contents of the certificate. And, then a proof-of-possession procedure, based on the private key is used to verify ownership of the certificate. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11-12 and 24 are patentable over the Wesley, Caronni and Pellacuru references and the allowance of claims 11-12 and 24 are respectfully requested.

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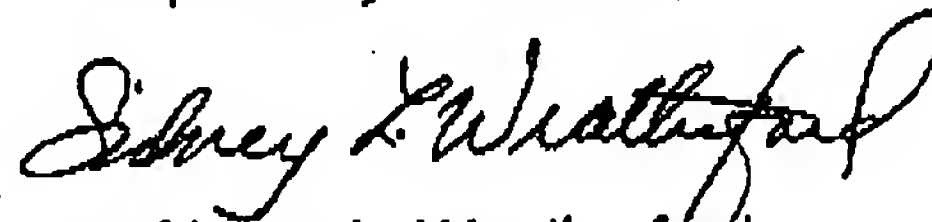
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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